

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated July 18, 2006, which set a three-month period for response, making this amendment due by October 18, 2006.

Claims 1, 3, and 5-13 are pending in this application.

In the Office Action, the title of the invention was objected to as not descriptive. Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DE 10124439 ("DE '439"). Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE '439.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 4-8 and 12-14 if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In the present amendment, the specification has been amended to add standard sectional headings and to delete reference to the claims.

The claims have been amended to address the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. With regard to claim 7, claim 7 was amended to more clearly state limitation defined in the last two lines by adopting the relevant language of the specification at page 7, lines 18-21.

Claim 1 was amended to add the features of allowable claim 4 and intervening claim 2, both of which were canceled. Claim 1 is now allowable by


inclusion of the features of claim 4, as are its remaining dependent claims 3 and 5-9.

Claim 10 was amended to add the features of allowable claim 14.

Therefore, claim 10 also is allowable, as are dependent claims 11-13.

The application in its amended state is believed to be in condition for allowance. Action to this end is courteously solicited. If any issues remain to be resolved prior to the allowance of this application, the undersigned attorney for the Applicant would very much welcome a telephone call from the Examiner to resolve those matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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